

TreeLink News Bulletin

In the works



Siberian Elm
Ulmus pumila

The 2.5-inch leaves are elliptic to narrowly ovate, equal sided at the base, taper pointed, sharply toothed, and smooth on both sides. The bark is gray-brown, rough, and corrugated. The small, red flowers occur in clusters in the spring before the leaves unfold. The fruit is a small seed surrounded by a rounded, notched, green wing. The Siberian elm prefers sandy, well-drained soils and is tolerant of droughty conditions. It is also said to be more highly resistant to Dutch elm disease than its cousin the American elm.

-Courtesy of Allen J. Coombes



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources
Jennifer M. Belcher - Commissioner of Public Lands

Happy Arbor Month! I hope everyone's April is turning out to be a nice one and everyone's planting projects are going smoothly. It looks like this longer than normal winter is slowing down the trees, but that just gives us tree planters more time. In my travels around the state, I am extremely encouraged by all of the positive projects I have seen. Keep up the good work. For all of you who are wondering about the grant results, keep your eyes peeled for next month's edition of the TreeLink News Bulletin where we will announce the results of the 1999 Community Forestry Grants. I would also like to remind you to keep an eye out for the upcoming TreeLink News which features an article highlighting research from Dr. Kathleen Wolf at the University of Washington. The research quantifies the preferences consumers have for shopping in retail districts with trees. The project was funded by the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council and the USDA Forest Service. - K.L.

Tree City USA

Every year a number of communities in Washington State meet the standards set by the National Arbor Day Foundation to become recognized as a Tree City USA. The four criteria include: establish a tree board or commission, write and pass a tree ordinance, document a \$2 per capita expenditure on tree-related matters and celebrate Arbor Day. Currently, Washington has 30 communities which have met or exceeded the four standards (the number of years they have received the title is in parentheses). They include:

City of Bellevue (8)★	City of Mount Vernon (3)
City of Bremerton (3)★	City of Okanogan (2)
City of Cashmere (12)	City of Olympia (6)
City of Clarkston (3)	City of Omak (2)
Town of Clyde Hill (6)	City of Poulsbo (2)★
City of Deer Park (1)	City of Pullman (2)
City of Ellensburg (16)	City of Richland (1)
City of Everett (6)	City of Seattle (14)★
Fairchild Air Force Base (5)★	City of Sumner (5)
City of Grandview (2)	City of Tacoma (6)
Town of Hunts Point (8)	City of Tumwater (4)
City of Issaquah (6)★	City of Vancouver (10)
City of Lacey (8)	City of Walla Walla (5)
City of Longview (15)	City of Woodinville (3)★
McChord Air Force Base (6)★	City of Yelm (3)

Communities with a "★" went above and beyond the four standards to receive points toward a Tree City USA "Growth Award." If you would like information on becoming a Tree City USA or the Tree City USA "Growth Award," contact the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

Dutch Elm Disease in Washington

The *Ceratocystis ulmi* fungus, better known as Dutch Elm Disease (DED), once thought only to inhabit the urban forests of the eastern United States has found its way into the Pacific Northwest, and is being actively pursued in several cities in the Pacific Northwest. The fungus colonizes the tree's vascular tissue, showing itself first as yellowing or wilted foliage on one or several limbs and then spreads quickly to kill the rest of the tree. Brown streaking in the wood is also an important symptom of DED, although other fungi can produce similar stains. The disease is spread three ways: native and European elm bark beetles; root grafts; and infected pruning tools. Several control options exist. The first option is to carry out an aggressive monitoring campaign to make sure any changes in the crowns of suspect trees are noted and investigated. If a tree is thought to be infected, all the infected wood should be removed and burned immediately. If several elms are close to each other, all root grafts should be severed through trenching or fumigants. Finally, it is important to make sure all pruning tools are disinfected on a regular basis. There are a number of chemical control products on the market, but none of them have shown the ability to eradicate the disease entirely. Ultimately, the best control method is prevention through maintenance of a healthy and diverse urban forest. Your local ISA Certified Arborist should be able to make a positive identification of the disease or at least be able to remove the suspected area and have it tested professionally. For a list of ISA Certified Arborists in Washington State, contact the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

In the works (continued)

The trees in the street are old trees
used to living with people.
Family trees that remember
your grandfather's name.
-Robert Frost

**TRIVIA: What famous "land ethic"
publication was published fifty years ago
this year?**

(answer is upside down below)

Picks and Shovels

The Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is made possible with assistance from the USDA Forest Service. The program's purpose is to assist communities and nonprofit groups in building self-sustaining urban forestry and tree care programs with strong local support.

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(Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac*)

Washington Certified Landscape Technician Program

A Certified Landscape Technician (CLT) is a landscape professional who has been officially certified through the Washington State Certified Landscape Professional testing program. CLTs have passed written exams and the most rigorous field tests the landscape industry has to offer. There are currently three CLT tests: landscape installation, landscape maintenance, and landscape irrigation. The CLT program provides landscape architects, the building industry and the public with a means of identifying qualified landscape professionals. For the landscape employer, the program provides a method for screening and selecting qualified employees. For the landscape employee, it offers the opportunity for professional advancement and prestige within the landscape industry.

The CLT testing program is in its ninth year in Washington State. The program originated in California and was developed by the California Landscape Contractors Association. The first test was held in 1983 in Santa Rosa, California. After several years of refining and developing the tests, the CLT program was licensed first to Colorado, and later to both Oregon and Washington. In 1993 a National Review Committee was formed, consisting of the four states offering the CLT examinations. The focus of the Committee was to ensure consistency of testing standards in all four states, and to evaluate the examination for each certification category and make improvements in the tests. The Associated Landscape Contractors of America purchased the CLT testing rights and have made the CLT program a standardized test nationwide. Seventeen additional states and five Canadian provinces have already signed on as licensees of the CLT program.

There are now approximately 150 CLTs in the State of Washington, and the number is growing. The next CLT tests will be administered on May 14 and 15 at the Clover Park Technical College certification testing site at the school's Fort Lewis Campus. Clover Park has developed and built the first permanent certification test site in the nation. For information, contact the Washington Association Landscape Professionals at (425) 644-7642.

A City Among the Trees is a 200-page workbook which integrates elements of urban forestry, comprehensive planning, and sustainability. It will prove to be a valuable resource for young and old citizens planning for trees and green spaces and will foster awareness and political support for future urban forestry management. This book is a must have for anyone interested in the wonderful world of urban and community forestry. Between its covers, you will find information on topics like: urban tree benefits, planning, tree selection, planting, tree care, street and park trees, natural areas, tree preservation, and a phenomenal resource guide. Copies can be purchased from Seattle Transportation for the bargain price of \$10. Order one now. For more information, contact Liz Ellis at liz.ellis@ci.seattle.wa.us or (206) 684-5008.

April

10 Celebrating Washington's Trees. Washington State History Museum, Tacoma, WA. This all-day event for families will feature workshops, speakers, entertainment, and hands-on learning experiences. Attendees will also receive free admission to the "Sunrise to Paradise: Story of Mt. Rainier," a new exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of Mt. Rainier National Park.

21 Washington Community Forestry Council Meeting, Ellensburg, WA. The Council's goal is to provide leadership and vision to help citizens preserve, plant, and maintain community and urban forests. Their meetings are open to the public. For more information, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

May

14-15 Certified Landscape Technician Exam. Clover Park Technical College, Fort Lewis Campus. If you would like more information, contact the Washington Association of Landscape Professionals at PO Box 50253, Bellevue, WA 98015 or (425) 644-7642.